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Memorial addresses on the life and character of Edward J. Gay

United States. Congress

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PRESENTED BY
Hon. James McMillan
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HON. EDWARD J. GAY.

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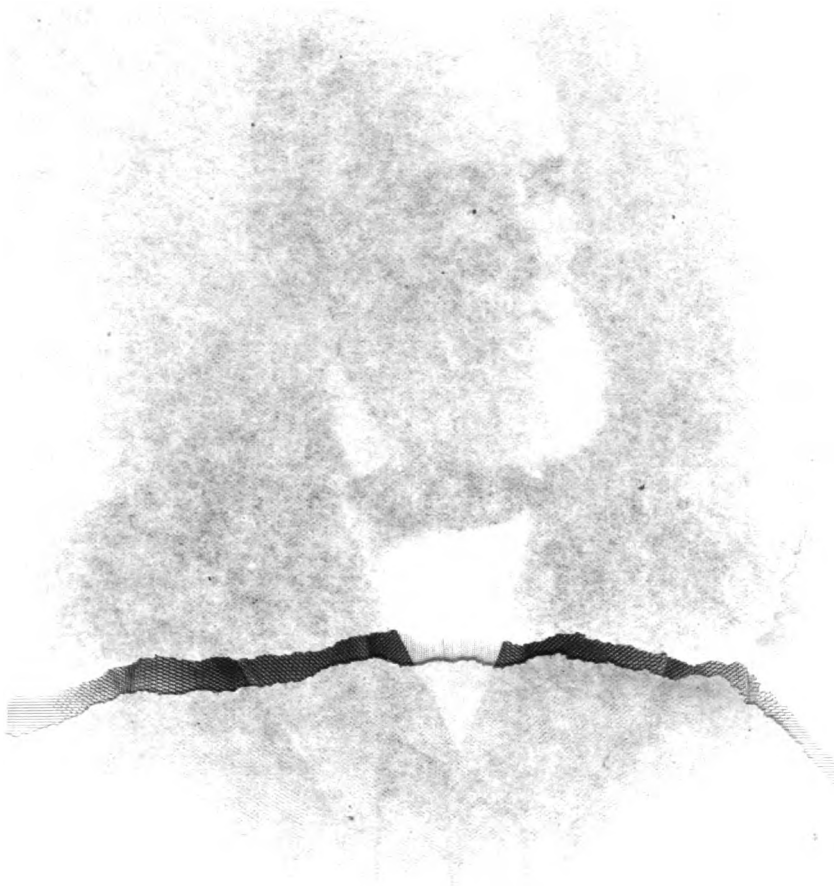

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H. 51st Cong., 1st sess. 1890.

MEMORIAL ADDRESSES

ON THE

41233

LIFE AND CHARACTER

OF

EDWARD J. GAY,

A REPRESENTATIVE FROM LOUISIANA,

DELIVERED IN THE

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND IN THE SENATE,

FIFTY-FIRST CONGRESS, FIRST SESSION.

PUBLISHED BY ORDER OF CONGRESS.

WASHINGTON:
GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE.
1891.

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JOINT RESOLUTION TO PRINT THE EULOGIES UPON EDWARD J. GAY.

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That there be printed of the eulogies delivered in Congress on the late EDWARD J. GAY, a Representative in the Fifty-first Congress from the State of Louisiana, twenty-five thousand copies, of which number six thousand copies shall be for the use of the Senate, and nineteen thousand copies for the use of the House of Representatives; and the Secretary of the Treasury be, and he is hereby, directed to have printed a portrait of the said EDWARD J. GAY to accompany said eulogies, and for the purpose of engraving and printing said portrait the sum of one thousand dollars or so much thereof as may be necessary is hereby appropriated out of any moneys in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated. That of the quota to the House of Representatives the Public Printer shall set apart fifty copies, which he shall have bound in full morocco with gilt edges, the same to be delivered when completed to the family of the deceased.

Approved, January 28, 1891.

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PROCEEDINGS IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF DEATH.

DECEMBER 12, 1889.

Mr. WILKINSON. Mr. Speaker, it becomes my paintul duty to announce to the House the death of my late colleague, Hon. EDWARD J. GAY, who was a Representative from the Third Congressional district of Louisiana in the Forty-ninth and Fiftieth, and a Representative-elect to the Fifty-first Congress. Later on in the session I shall ask this House to take appropriate action in regard to the death of my deceased colleague. I now send to the Clerk's desk, and ask the reading and immediate adoption of these resolutions.

The Clerk read as follows:

Resolved, That the House has heard with profound regret of the death of Hon. EDWARD J. GAY, late a Representative from the State of Louisiana.

Resolved, That the Clerk be directed to communicate a copy of this resolution to the Senate.

Resolved, That, as a further mark of respect, the House do now adjourn.

The resolutions were unanimously agreed to; and accordingly (at 2 o'clock p. m.) the House adjourned until Monday next.

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EULOGIES.

MARCH 22, 1890.

The SPEAKER. The hour has arrived which has been fixed by order of the House for the delivery of eulogies upon Hon. EDWARD J. GAY, late a Representative from the State of Louisiana.

Mr. WILKINSON. Mr. Speaker, this is the hour set apart for paying tribute to the memory of my deceased colleague, and now, on behalf of the delegation from Louisiana, I send to the desk a series of resolutions to be read by the Clerk.

The resolutions were read, as follows:

Resolved, That the business of the House be now suspended, that opportunity may be given for tributes to the memory of Hon. EDWARD J. GAY, late a Representative from the State of Louisiana.

Resolved, That, as a further mark of respect to the memory of the deceased, and in recognition of his eminent abilities as a distinguished public servant, the House at the conclusion of these memorial proceedings shall stand adjourned.

Resolved, That the Clerk communicate these resolutions to the Senate.

Resolved, That the Clerk be instructed to communicate a copy of these resolutions to the family of the deceased.

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ADDRESS OF MR. WILKINSON, OF LOUISIANA.

Mr. WILKINSON. Mr. Speaker, it would be ordinarily appropriate for the successor of Hon. EDWARD J. GAY [Mr. Price] to make the opening address on this occasion. That successor was Mr. GAY's devoted companion and friend, notwithstanding the disparity that existed in their ages, and would need no prompting to lead us all in expressions of regard and esteem for his distinguished predecessor. But as the husband of his daughter, holding for Mr. GAY the affection of one of his own sons, associated with him as he was by the closest ties, the public utterance of these feelings would be the exercise of a privilege so painful that silence seemed to him more appropriate than eulogy on his part during these solemn ceremonies. It has devolved on me to take the place which under other circumstances he would fill, and give voice to the opening tribute among those which we are here to offer now.

Hon. EDWARD J. GAY was born at Liberty, in Bedford County, Virginia, seventy-four years ago. He was taken by his parents at the age of four to southern Illinois. Four years afterwards his father, with his face still turned to the west, crossed the Mississippi River and settled at St. Louis, then a little town of 3,000 inhabitants, which the wildest enthusiast could hardly have foreseen would become, during Mr. GAY's lifetime, a splendid city of nearly half a million people.

Young GAY obtained the best education which the time and place afforded at St. Louis, at Bellville, Illinois, and finally at Augusta College, Kentucky.

Naturally bright and industrious he improved his oppor-

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tunities, and at the age of eighteen started with his father in commercial life. He showed great aptness, enterprise, and ability as a merchant, even at that early age, and began a career which was marked as much by success as it was noted for strict probity and integrity.

The record that he made as a merchant then was a source of satisfaction and even of just pride to him ever afterwards. I well recollect how much gratified he was on one occasion in this Hall when the distinguished gentleman from Iowa [Mr. Gear] said in debate that Mr. GAY'S career as a merchant of St. Louis before the war had made his name a synonym of honesty, integrity, and honorable dealing throughout the whole Mississippi Valley.

Mr. GAY was married in 1840 to Miss Lavinia, the daughter of Colonel Hynes, of Nashville, Tennessee, who had large planting interests in Louisiana.

His marriage was a happy one. In the dear companionship of her he chose so well near fifty years were spent. The wife of his early and constant affection, two sons, two daughters, and a number of grandchildren survive him.

Colonel Hynes had large planting interests in Louisiana, and, in the management of this property, nearly fifteen years after his marriage, Mr. GAY first became a resident of the State which three times in succession gave him the commission of one of her Representatives here, and in whose industrial history he was destined so often for thirty-four years to occupy so conspicuous and commanding a position.

His life as a planter had begun but a few years before war's wild notes were heard, and Sumter's guns woke the echoes which Manassas and Gettysburgh and a hundred fields reverberated, and which Appomattox only hushed.

An opponent of secession until opposition was unavailing, when the die was cast he sided with his people. His eldest

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son entered the field in defense of the South. Detained himself at home by reason of injuries received years before, he saw around him the ruin and destruction that followed in the wake of that appeal to arms.

When peace came at last Mr. GAY wasted no time in vain regrets, but gave his best energies to repair the ravages that war had made and to help others to do the same. Under the influence of his pluck and energy, and of that of those like him, barriers to the floods were rebuilt, fields replanted, factories arose from their ashes, the land regained the beauty that had gone, and peace and plenty smiled where want and desolation stalked in many a home before.

As a planter and manufacturer he evinced the same thoroughness, diligence, and capacity which marked his mercantile life. He was foremost in all matters affecting the welfare of the agricultural community, and was closely identified with the progress and enterprise of the great Southern city, New Orleans, the larger portion of which I have the honor to represent upon this floor.

Of all the avocations that he ever followed, I believe Mr. GAY was fondest of agriculture, or of that combination of agriculture and manufactures which prevails on every large sugar plantation in Louisiana. He loved that calling in all its phases. He loved to see the mellow earth turn from the shining share. He loved to see the tender shoots of cane mark the long brown rows with tints of early spring and then grow on until they hid the earth with a continuous canopy of green. He loved to view the fields when under summer suns they lay like a sea at calm, or were stirred by the breeze into emerald waves of loveliness and grace. And when the autumn was well along, and the harvest came, to him whose life had always been an active one, there was a certain excitement in the busy grinding time, when he saw the

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skillful cutters stretched in line, with rapid blow and gleaming knife, strip and top and fell the standing canes and cast the purple stalks in even rows and piles ready for the wagon's load; when above the sounds of rustling leaves and ringing steel, of rumbling carts and teamster's urgent words, there came the cheery voices of contented labor, which burst at times into a work-song, weird and wild, but full of melody. He loved to see without his factory walls the ruddy glare of furnace-fires, and within the engines go on and on by night and day; and massive rolls crush out the liquid sweets, the amber juices foam and dance with heat and steam, the machines revolve with lightning speed, from which at last emerge the pure and sparkling crystals, the finished product of twelve long months of cost and toil.

And thus, Mr. Speaker, in 1884, amid these rural scenes, the future appeared to him as quiet and serene as the placid calm of evening after storms have ceased and clouds have passed away.

But the merchant who had laid aside the cares of his calling, the planter who at almost the allotted three score years and ten looked forward to spending his declining years at peace in the society of his loved ones and amid the comforts of his home, received an urgent summons to bear his people's standard in one of the most hotly contested political conflicts of the time.

Mr. GAY was averse to accepting the nomination unanimously tendered him, and to entering political life in his declining years, but the summons that came to him with such insistence he would not and did not disregard. Elected in that campaign to the Forty-ninth Congress against an opponent of great ability and with great patronage at his back, he was reëlected to the Fiftieth and Fifty-first Congresses, each time against a different competitor—for no man

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was found to enter the lists against him a second time—and each time with increased majorities, because each time he not only held the friends he had, but won others who had opposed him before.

He was particularly averse to accepting a third nomination on account of ill health and need of rest, but saying, "I am willing to do my part," did that part—a noble one indeed!—unto death itself.

The seat to which he was elected the last time he was destined, alas! never to fill. Nearly three months after his second term was over, on May 30, 1889, at home and surrounded by those he loved, he passed peacefully away.

Mr. GAY'S career as a legislator crowned a long life of honor and usefulness. He had the respect and esteem of both sides of this Chamber. Those who served on committees with him, and were most in contact with him, found a kindliness of feeling, a sound judgment on public matters, and the capacity to deal intelligently with those questions, which was hidden to many by his modest demeanor and the habit of not pushing himself or his opinions needlessly forward.

Among his associates on the Committee on Appropriations of the Fiftieth Congress was a congenial spirit, who, like Mr. GAY, was an apt student of the great problems of governmental finance. Missouri's gifted son, big in intellect and in frame, the lamented Burnes, was his intimate and his friend. Among them also was he whose deeds and name will be held in honor while good government exists and the love of liberty survives; I mean the illustrious son of Pennsylvania [Mr. Randall] whose present sickness and suffering have withheld him for months from this floor. Mr. GAY'S closest associates, his most numerous intimates, were natur-

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ally on this side, but yonder aisle did not mark the outer boundary of his friendships. He found here that those who differed most in political faith could be closely alike in kindly feeling, in honorable service, and in unsullied career. They are alike also, Mr. Speaker, in readiness to pay the last tribute, as some of them soon will do, of regard and esteem to his memory.

Mr. GAY seldom took part in debate; but when he did, he commanded the attention of this House, and I have seen Members gather around him anxious to hear every word that fell from his lips.

His manner in debate was simple, and he did not strain after effect. He did not call to his aid the arts of rhetoric and indulge in studied phrase or glittering trope, but he had the faculty of expressing what he desired to say in words that were simple, clear, and full of force and thought.

The occasion gave at times a loftiness and a dignity to his speech. When he was engaged in the attempt—successful in the end—to secure justice for the settlers upon the Houmas lands, and strove to prevent them from being deprived of their homes and their little all, his voice was lifted in the cause of the weak against the strong—a cause as noble as any which ever had an advocate in its behalf.

When, upon questions of far greater moment, he protested against any radical change in the fiscal system of a century which the fathers had instituted, and patriots and sages had maintained, and under which the pursuits of his people had grown and prospered; when he pictured the injustice and wrong of legislation which, if enacted, would carry desolation and ruin to that people, the magnitude of the issues involved found him equal to the place and the occasion.

At such a time he not only followed as legislator the ex-

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ample of the wisest statesmanship of the past, but also proved an able and an earnest champion of the dearest interests of those he served so well.

Implicitly did his people trust in him, and well was that trust bestowed, for if ever Representative filled the measure of faithfulness to his people it was he.

I well recollect the long and trying summer days of that session two years ago, when he staid so long here after sickness had left its pallor and weakness on him. Even then members on this floor noticed in his look the faint shadows of the end. Away from here, outside the close air of this Chamber, restoration and health seemed possible. He was far from the home where blew breezes from the river and came fresh odors from the groves and the fields, but westward, close at hand beyond those hills, were mountain resorts with crystal springs and reviving airs, and eastward, almost as close, was the sea, where Atlantic breezes brought often strength and color back to wasted frame and pallid cheek again; but he would not stay away, even when life and health were at stake. He considered his duty to be here, and here until the need was past—here he remained, like a faithful soldier at his post.

But, Mr. Speaker, if EDWARD J. GAY'S record here were blotted out; if no word of his were left upon our statutes; if his life as a legislator had never been lived, he would be remembered still, far beyond the circle of family and of friends, for as private citizen, as Christian gentleman, he made his mark upon his time.

He was a man of simple tastes and sturdy virtues. Gifted in mind he had the brain to plan, the will to execute. Exact in the performance of his own obligations, he expected others to be the same; but to those to whom misfortunes came, through no fault of theirs, he often gave a helping

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hand, and with his counsel and his means retrieved their failing fortunes.

He abhorred pretense; had little patience with conceit. He had a scorn for idleness, and brooked not him who did not use the talent which the Lord had given.

He was kind and sympathetic to those in his employ. Associated, as he ever was with the first and highest in every worthy calling, the humblest laborer had ever ready access to him for justice or advice or for assistance in a time of need.

Mr. GAY was most respected and esteemed by those who knew him best. With his life and character no "distance lent enchantment," but intimacy—the closer view—disclosed the qualities and charms which the distance hid.

His charities, Mr. Speaker, were extensive, but rarely published to the world. He gave to learning without ostentation, to church without parade, to poverty and distress with kindly hand and sympathetic word.

He forgave as he hoped to be forgiven, and kept no malice in his heart for any man on earth.

EDWARD J. GAY had no dread of death nor fear to lose the Christian's crown of immortality hereafter. He has gone indeed; and, although since then the months have flown and spring has come again with bud and bloom, at the mention of his name affection's tears will still gush forth and sorrow heave its sighs. Here friendship brings in memory now its tribute to the record of his deeds performed, of want relieved, of laurels won, of devotion to his people's cause, of standard held aloft for them which never met with shame!

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ADDRESS OF MR. HEARD, OF MISSOURI.

Mr. SPEAKER: As one of the Representatives of the State of Missouri I come in its name to pay brief tribute to a memory which all its citizens delight to honor; and I can but regret that the circumstances under which I approach the discharge of that duty have left me so little of time and opportunity for preparation therefor. It was my good fortune to enjoy more than a passing acquaintance with Mr. GAY, and I am therefore qualified in some measure to speak as one having personal knowledge of his worth. Not until he and I entered, together, the Forty-ninth Congress had I ever enjoyed a personal acquaintance with him; but from my boyhood his name and fame as one of the leading commercial and financial characters of our State and of the Southwest had been familiar to me.

In the beginning of his service in Congress Mr. GAY was assigned to duty on the Committee on the District of Columbia, where I had the honor to serve with him, and in that association I had opportunities for observing his course, which soon won from me a high admiration for his ability and an affectionate regard for his personal character. He was one of the most modest and at the same time one of the best informed men I have ever known. He brought to the discharge of his duties here a strong mind enriched with much learning, and an experience in the conduct of various and extensive business enterprises, public and private, that made him one of the wisest of counselors, as he was one of the safest and most conservative of legislators.

From his long and intimate connection with the conduct of municipal affairs in the cities of St. Louis and New Orleans,

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and his perfect familiarity with the needs of a large metropolitan population, his services in connection with the legislation proposed for this city and District were of great value to the committee, and his influence and character lent much weight to its recommendations when they were considered on this floor. He was devoted to duty, and though not enjoying robust health whilst a member of this body, he never missed a meeting of his committee or a session of the House, unless his attendance was prevented by sickness. As in the concerns of private life he was diligent, energetic, and successful to a remarkable degree, so in the discharge of his public duties his habits were the same; and that fidelity to his duty which won for him the respect and approval of his associates here secured for him also the gratitude and affection of his people at home.

Few lives better illustrate the possibilities of success that lie before the young men of this country than does that of Mr. GAY; and fewer still are those more worthy of imitation.

Having first qualified himself for achieving success by acquiring a practical education and the establishment of a good moral character, he had a well-grounded faith in himself, as those who knew him also had an unwavering faith in him. Of good habits, clear head, and honest purposes, his actions always proceeded upon plans well thought out, and which were closely adhered to. While possessing rare prudence as a young merchant, his courage in entering upon new fields of business enterprise was no less distinguished among his prominent characteristics. When only twenty-two years of age, and possessed of financial means which in this day would be regarded as inconsiderable, he was the first to engage in the direct importation of coffee by the cargo into St. Louis; and that venture, from which older

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and richer merchants shrank in fear and counseled him against, became from the first a pronounced success, and the bold young merchant's reputation and fortune were assured.

It will be remembered, Mr. Speaker, that this important incident in the life of Mr. GAY occurred more than half a century ago, when the city which is to-day the great metropolis of the Mississippi Valley was but a struggling town on the very frontiers of commerce, and at that time this act of intelligent enterprise on the part of the bold young pioneer in that line of commercial activity was regarded by his fellows as reckless in its conception and only accidental in its success.

The enterprise, energy, and honesty of EDWARD J. GAY, applied to commercial pursuits in St. Louis, brought him abundant fortune, the accumulation of which was made without leaving a blot upon his character. Although for many years before his death he made Louisiana his home, the State of Missouri never ceased to regard him as one of her sons, and at the close of his illustrious life the city of St. Louis, where he had won his earliest triumphs, claimed the honor of giving sepulture to his remains.

But, Mr. Speaker, it is the just pride of his friends in that great city, with many of whose enterprises he was so long and so conspicuously connected, that while he rests within her borders beneath an epitaph which duly records his honors, not alone in this way is his memory perpetuated among her people; for his name is commemorated by association with her institutions of commerce, education, and charity, of which he was ever the steadfast and generous friend.

Of the work accomplished by Mr. GAY as a citizen of Louisiana I will leave others, better qualified than I, to speak in detail; and with reference thereto I shall only say

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that throughout a long and eventful career in that State he was distinguished by the intelligent and successful application to private and public affairs of those high principles of business integrity and fair dealing which had made his name influential and honored in Missouri; and the rank assigned him by his just selection by the people of that State to fill high and responsible positions in commercial and political service fitly attests the appreciation and esteem in which he was there held.

It may not be inappropriate in this connection to refer to the fact that though Mr. GAY had enjoyed in a marked degree the honors of his people, he never filled a position of public trust which came as the result of his seeking. Always modest, and free from that sort of ambition which leads men to seek popular applause, he was ever content to fill a private station in life, though never shrinking when called by his fellow-citizens to take on the burden of great responsibilities. He was sent to Congress as a Representative of that district in Louisiana in whose service he died without having sought or even desired that distinguished honor; and although when he became the candidate of his party in said district his political opponents held control therein by an immense majority, such was the personal popularity of Mr. GAY, and such the confidence reposed in his ability and fidelity to fitly represent the interests of his district and State, that he was not only triumphantly elected for that term, but until death closed his honorable career no one was thought of by his people as a competitor for the position he so worthily held.

As may be inferred from what I have stated about the high commercial and financial standing of Mr. GAY, he was a man of great wealth; indeed, he was one of the wealthiest members of the American Congress; but none of his asso-

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ciates here would have ever suspected this from the bearing of the man. Always free from every approach to ostentation in his style of living, quiet and unpretending in his manner toward all his fellows, he exemplified in the highest degree the truth of that maxim that "rarely is the man who has been able to honestly acquire great wealth spoiled by its possession." I refer to his wealth only to emphasize with his associates here, who knew little of his possessions, and nothing from Mr. GAY himself—or no man ever heard from him an allusion to his affairs or to himself that savored of boasting—the virtue of modesty so strongly marked in this admirable character.

Wealth is not always the mark of honor, but when acquired in the honorable pursuit of legitimate business, the conduct of which benefits the whole world and takes nothing from any citizen, and when its possession stimulates and quickens the impulse to do good, instead of moving its possessor only to strive for greater acquisition regardless of effects upon others, then it is a badge of distinction which the best of men may be proud to wear. Such a possessor of wealth was Mr. GAY; and it may be truthfully said of him that in the wise, patriotic, and generous use which he made of his fortune, more than to the circumstance of his immense possessions, was the secret of his great influence.

ADDRESS OF MR. GEAR, OF IOWA.

Mr. SPEAKER: I am glad to join my fellow-members in paying my tribute to the worth of our departed friend. It is an old adage, "*Nil mortuis nisi bonum.*"

Sir, there are few men whom I have ever met who more truly illustrated in his life the truth of the quotation.

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My acquaintance with Mr. GAY probably antedates that of any person here to-day. The first time I met him was in June, 1846. He was then engaged in business as a wholesale grocery merchant. St. Louis at that time commanded not only the trade of the Northwest, but extended also to Mexico on the southwest. Mr. GAY possessed in an eminent degree the essential qualities which make the successful business man, and was at the head of a firm whose trade extended throughout that country from New Orleans to the sources of the Mississippi and Missouri Rivers. By the fair and honest methods with which he transacted business his firm soon came to the front as the leading business concern of the Mississippi Valley, the reputation of which is to-day a pleasant remembrance to the old merchants of that section.

During a long and active business career great and wonderful changes came over the country, to much of which he contributed both by his enterprise and his purse.

During his career as a merchant in St. Louis two great financial crises swept over the country, which involved the merchants and traders alike in bankruptcy. By his sagacity he foresaw the portent of the times, and by his ability he carried his firm safely through those great financial storms and emerged therefrom with enhanced credit. His spoken word was not only his bond, but when once given was scrupulously kept.

His mind was equitable in the largest degree. This quality may be illustrated by a remark he once made to one of his clerks, who himself is now one of the leading business men of the West. He said: "John, always make it a rule when you are trusted to act for another to exercise your judgment in his behalf."

Thus, he honestly believed and put into practice in his

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every-day business the golden rule, "Whatsoever ye would that men should do to you, do ye even so to them."

As you, his fellow-members, knew and appreciated him as you met him here day by day, so he was known and appreciated by all who transacted business with him during his long and active business life. Honest and upright in his daily walk and in his dealings, he especially impressed all with his kind and gentle manners. He was a manly man and a gentleman in the fullest meaning of the word. His character in this regard is idealized in the language of England's sweet poet:

There are some spirits truly just,
  Unwarped by pelf or pride;
Great in the calm, but greater still
  When pressed by adverse tide.

These hold the rank no king can give,
  No station can disgrace,
Nature puts forth her gentlemen
  And monarchs must give place.

Sir, the reputation he enjoyed for honesty of purpose, integrity in his business transactions, and as a conscientious Christian gentleman is to his children a legacy more precious by far than the ample fortune he bequeathed them.

ADDRESS OF MR. MCMILLIN, OF TENNESSEE.

Mr. SPEAKER. Across yon majestic river, in sight of this Capitol, lies a land remarkable not alone for the beauty of its scenery and fertility of its soil, but a wonderland, renowned and revered wherever the truth and beauty of glorious womanhood are respected and the strength and grandeur of a splendid manhood treasured. It can boast, generation after

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generation, of strong statesmen who had wisdom without conceit and learning without pedantry; of warriors who were valorous, but not oppressive—grand as Achilles in war and humble as Cincinnatus in peace. There the magnificent and fiery spirits of her sons is surpassed only by the beauty and loveliness of her daughters. From Virginia's hills and Virginia's vales, following the star of empire westward, her sons and daughters have wended their way. Wherever they have gone they have carried with them a hospitality which knew no stint, and a love of orderly, constitutional government which knew no limit. In every State, from the Chesapeake to the Golden Gate, the sturdy sons of the mother of States and statesmen are found in the forum, in the field, in the factory, everywhere illustrating the integrity of man, advocating the rights of man, and advancing the material interests of man.

From such a stock and such a State sprang EDWARD J. GAY. Born in 1816, he was taken from Virginia to Illinois in 1820, and removed thence to St. Louis, Missouri, in 1824. That city, now one of the wonders of the century and the country, was then but a small town. He may be said to have grown with its growth and strengthened with its strength.

It is not my purpose, nor would this occasion permit me, to detail all the important events in the life of this distinguished citizen and statesman. He was fortunate in youth in being placed under an educator of fine ability, under whom he made not only satisfactory but rapid progress.

Reaching manhood his tastes turned strongly to business rather than professional pursuits, and he entered upon a mercantile life. His chief characteristics were untiring assiduity, unswerving integrity, and boldness. After calm deliberation he reached his own conclusions and stood by

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them and defended them. He struck boldly out in his mercantile pursuits and went to Orient or Occident for what his trade demanded. Moved by this spirit, Mr. Heard has told you, he was the first to import coffee from the West Indies to St. Louis.

He married a fair daughter of Tennessee, Miss Lavina Hynes, in 1840, who survives him.

In 1856 he moved to Louisiana, where most of his latter life was spent, and from which he was sent as a Representative in Congress.

Mr. Speaker, in this busy age and progressive land fortunate is that man who can leave a lasting impression on any State of this Union. But such was the power of this man that you may blot out either his record here, or his life in St. Louis, or his life in Louisiana, or any two of them, and there remain enough of fame for him to allow posterity to rank him a distinguished American citizen.

It was not my good fortune to meet Mr. GAY till he came here as a member of the Forty-ninth Congress. From that time on I knew him well. In the Fiftieth Congress we occupied seats so near each other that I saw him daily and hourly when the House was in session. I had thereby an opportunity to become thoroughly acquainted with him and observe his actions.

As a man he was calm, self-possessed, and meditative. He reached conclusions, as I have stated, after thoughtful consideration, and adhered to them with great tenacity. He was modest but firm, courteous but bold.

As a legislator he was ever vigilant in looking to the interests of the great State he represented and the grand country of which it was a part. Those acquainted with his business affairs knew how exacting were the demands of his private interests. But while here he made these subservient

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to his public duties, as he should, and never allowed private affairs, however important, to take the time which he had agreed by the acceptance of his high office to dedicate to the public. Placed on account of his recognized ability on the Committee on Appropriations, the latter years of his life were devoted to the study of those economic questions involved in the appropriation of hundreds of millions of money in the government of sixty millions of people. How well this duty was discharged his vigilant attendance here and the records of his country attest.

But the end came after more than three score and ten years. He had found the valley of that great river a wilderness and a canebrake. He had helped to clear away its forests, to spread the wings of commerce over its waste of waters, and to people its valleys.

He had seen the blighting hand of civil war fall upon the blooming land, and seen it wither. He had seen misgovernment, worse than war, hover over the land long after the smoke of battle had been lifted. But instead of being discouraged by calamity he was nerved by it. Disaster after disaster was succeeded by struggle after struggle till the land that was in tears smiled again.

Looking back to the past and remembering what a potent factor he had been, not only in building up the country originally, but in rehabilitating it, Mr. GAY could say with gladness what Othello said in sadness, "I have done the state some service."

Looking to the future and remembering that he had years before professed faith in the blessed Redeemer, he could triumphantly exclaim, "I have fought a good fight; I have finished my course; I have kept the faith."

Four States boasted being the place of his residence. More than forty States mourn his death.

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ADDRESS OF MR. BLANCHARD, OF LOUISIANA.

Mr. SPEAKER: EDWARD J. GAY lived a long, useful, and honorable life. Could more be said of any man than this?

His career was one of eminent success in all he undertook. When he died one of the chief pillars supporting the social, industrial, and political institutions of Louisiana gave way. His life and character afford a most instructive lesson to the youth and manhood of the country.

Those who have preceded me, in their remarks, have told you that he was born of Virginia parentage, on the soil of the Old Dominion, in the early part of the present century; how his father, even then recognizing that "Westward the course of empire takes its way," had removed with his family first to Illinois and then to St. Louis, settling permanently at the latter place when it was but a frontier post and a town of 3,000 people; and how first his father and then himself became successful merchants and laid the foundation of the colossal fortune which was his at the time of his death and for many years prior thereto.

I shall not dwell upon this portion of Mr. GAY'S life, fruitful as it was of the results of well-directed energies, wise forethought, and sound business judgment; I prefer to speak of his life after he came to Louisiana. While he acquired large interests in Louisiana as early as in the forties, it was not until 1856 that he came to reside permanently there. He immediately took position as one of the most sagacious, far-seeing, progressive citizens of the State. He made his home upon one of his plantations, and settled down to the alluring life of a sugar planter. His possessions were very

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large, embracing some of the best sugar properties in the most fertile portions of the State.

He became the largest sugar planter and, perhaps, the wealthiest man in the State. He gave to his great interests his personal attention and supervision. No man in the State was ever more actively or intimately identified with sugar production in Louisiana, and no one had a better understanding of its needs, or had more thoroughly mastered its details. He was a thorough business man, with an extensive and liberal knowledge of industrial and political economy.

Mr. GAY'S absorption in commercial and agricultural pursuits left him but small time for politics. Still, he recognized the duty incumbent on all citizens to give thought and attention to the concerns of government, and it was his habit throughout life to coöperate in local politics for the advancement of the best interests of the country.

He was opposed to secession, and was active in his efforts to check the growth of that sentiment in Louisiana.

His grandfather had been a soldier of the Revolutionary war and the grandson's love for the Union sprang from the early teaching and example of the ancestor. He always showed his confidence in the stability of the national Union by large holdings of landed property in various sections of the country.

He was a friend to the laboring classes. In his section and wherever he was known he possessed their confidence and esteem. He always gave liberally to enterprises toward the advancement of the colored people, and enjoyed great popularity among them, as was evidenced by the many thousands of colored votes he received at the several elections when he was a candidate for Congress. Indeed, so popular was he with this class of citizens that when he was nominated for Congress the first time by the Democratic

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convention one branch of the Republican party of the district met in convention and indorsed his nomination, notwithstanding his Democracy, and most of the leading colored Republicans took the stump for him.

But little of Mr. GAY's long and active life was spent in politics, and it was only in his last years that he yielded to the solicitations of his own friends and those of the State and of his party, and undertook the arduous duties incident to the high station to which he was repeatedly called by the suffrages of his countrymen.

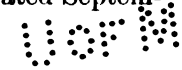
When he was first nominated for Congress he was an elderly gentleman enjoying the seclusion and ease of private life on the peaceful banks of the mighty Mississippi, surrounded by all the comforts that wealth affords and all the attractions of a beautiful and refined home.

He liked not the contention for office, and preferred the quiet of home life and the peaceful pursuit of business.

The pressure, however, upon him was so great in 1884 that he yielded and became the nominee of the Democratic party of the Third district of Louisiana for Congress.

When apprised by telegram of his nomination he wired in response that he could not accept. Other telegrams were sent urging his acceptance. Then it was he yielded. He looked upon the acceptance of the nomination in the light of a duty, and did not feel at liberty to decline it, though its acceptance entailed great personal inconvenience and sacrifice. As he himself said in his letter of final acceptance, "Nothing could have been more unexpected or more at variance with my inclination than to embark in a political canvass."

An index of the character of the man is had in the following extract from his letter of acceptance, dated September 15, 1884:



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I regard the present as a period of critical importance to my district as well as to the entire State of Louisiana, and I recognize the obligation of every good citizen to be ready to sacrifice personal considerations where the public welfare may be subserved.

His opponent for Congress at that election was W. P. Kellogg, wily, shrewd, and experienced, with a hitherto unbeaten Republican majority back of him. Mr. GAY undertook the seemingly hopeless task of his overthrow. It was not his custom to go into anything to lose, and after one of the hardest fought political battles ever had in Louisiana he was elected by a handsome majority. This was to the Forty-ninth Congress.

In 1886, when the time came around for the nomination of a candidate for the Fiftieth Congress, the delegates to the convention met at Franklin, Louisiana. Mr. GAY had not sought a renomination. He was not even present at the convention. On the day the convention met he telegraphed one of the delegates as follows:

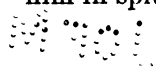
I have thought it proper to abstain from personal influence over the deliberations of the convention. I approve full and free discussion, and have no desire to be made the standard-bearer of the Third district unless so demanded by a united and harmonious constituency.

That day he was unanimously renominated, and the same delegate to whom he had sent the dispatch replied as follows:

The Democratic convention, thoroughly united and harmonious, has renominated you for Congress by acclamation amid great enthusiasm.

At his second election Mr. GAY increased his majority more than three times that attained over Kellogg in 1888.

He declined a third nomination for Congress on account of failing health. The parishes, however, instructed their delegates for him anyhow, and the convention renominated him in spite of his declination.



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He finally consented to accept the nomination—his health had somewhat improved—and in his letter of acceptance said:

> I accept your nomination because there is much to be done, and I am willing to try to do my part.

Simple, strong words—a declaration of duty by an old man in feeble health, who recognized the obligation upon him as a citizen of the Commonwealth and evinced his determination to essay its performance as far as his physical strength would permit. A third time he was elected and became the accredited Representative to the present Congress. But in the providence of God he was not to be permitted to be sworn in as a member. He died on May 30, 1889, at his beautiful home on the St. Louis plantation, in Iberville Parish, Louisiana, where he had spent many happy years of his life. He died quietly and easily, without a struggle, and was conscious to within an hour of his death.

His wife, the ideal of his youthful love, survives him, as do his two sons and two daughters, one of whom is the charming wife of Hon. Andrew Price, the present accomplished Representative in Congress from the district so ably represented by his distinguished father-in-law.

Mr. GAY lived out a period of more than three score years. His life was filled with works of usefulness and duty. He gave to public duty the same devotion, zeal, and activity with which he had worked for his own and himself.

His useful career in the National Legislature was a fitting termination to a life that had been spent in vigorously stimulating to prosperous proportions the interests and industries of the two States in which all the years of his manhood were spent.

In his death the State lost a public-spirited citizen, the

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sugar industry a progressive leader, and commercial circles a man honorable and successful in all his business pursuits.

His commercial connections throughout the country and his widespread reputation as a business man gave great weight to his opinions in legislative matters affecting the business interests of the country, and his large experience and accurate and mature judgment were of great value to his colleagues. In Congress he was, as in every other station of life, able, devoted, and conscientious. His life here was full of earnest and valuable exertion.

During his four years of service in the House he was never known to shirk any of the arduous duties incident to the position of Congressman. In spite of his age and infirmities, except when confined to his house by serious illness, he always was to be found at his post of duty. He was neither an orator nor a parliamentarian, but he was a worker and a thinker. Systematic, methodical, and painstaking in all he did, his whole course as a member of this House was marked with the same close application, persistent industry, and constant carefulness that were the distinguishing features of a long life devoted to varied and extensive business relations.

Added to a large and comprehensive knowledge of men and affairs, he possessed a mind remarkably well balanced, calm and just in its judgments, with rapid powers of observation, and a capacity to get the pith and substance of a proposition. To every subject which came before him he gave sound and practical examination.

His mind was analytical, his grasp of a subject rapid and comprehensive, his powers of discrimination great. He mastered details and was preëminently a man of affairs.

He was earnest and honest in all he did, and kept in his heart always a large place for the affections of family and

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friendship. He was unostentatious and democratic in all things, singularly devoid of pretense, simple in character, of gentle disposition, greatly beloved in the family circle. While possessed of great energy, he was singularly tempered with moderation. He was unpretending and exemplary in all his personal habits and intercourse with his neighbors.

He was a domestic man; enjoyed his home, his family, the society of his wife and children and friends.

He was a man of profound religious conviction and fine religious sensibilities. The reverend gentleman who officiated at his obsequies, and who knew him well, declared that while he was a man of busy life and active affairs, he yet held to his course heavenward. On his death-bed, speaking of the Saviour, he said to his pastor: "He has done so much for me, and I have done so little in return for Him."

Mr. Speaker, the deceased was my friend, and with reverent hand I lay on his tomb the garland of this humble tribute to his memory.

ADDRESS OF MR. HEMPHILL, OF SOUTH CAROLINA.

Mr. SPEAKER: My acquaintance with the distinguished citizen whose death we now mourn began with the meeting of the Forty-ninth Congress. As members of that body we were both appointed by the Speaker on the Committee on the District of Columbia, and though the disparity in our years was great, the relations which had their beginning then, and which subsisted unbroken during his entire service in this House, were most kindly and agreeable, and a source of constant pleasure to me.

As a member of the committee charged with the considera-

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tion of the numberless measures affecting for good or ill the capital of the nation and the people of this District, he was wise and prudent, and withal just and liberal.

Mr. GAY was impressed with the belief that as the population of the country multiplied and its wealth increased the capital must necessarily grow and become more and more the center of culture, wealth, and influence; and his great good sense made him realize that in dealing with the affairs of the District it was wise and just to lay plans that would enable the capital to keep pace with the general growth and expansion of the country. The characteristics, it seemed to me, that most distinctly marked our late friend and colleague were his earnestness of purpose and simplicity of life, together with great practical wisdom, coupled with independence.

Every one who came in contact with Mr. GAY must have been impressed with that unassumed simplicity of manner which characterized his social and official intercourse with others, and which made him easily approachable both to the old and the young alike.

I remember well how much I was struck with this most agreeable characteristic, when, after becoming more intimately acquainted with him, I learned what large enterprises he had inaugurated and controlled, what success had been achieved by him, and the good he had accomplished both for himself and his country.

That Mr. GAY was a man of earnest purposes is evidenced by the splendid results of his life's work.

Few men in all our Southern land have accomplished so much through their individual exertions, and surely no one could have done so many things and all so well unless controlled by that fixedness of purpose that so distinctly marked this distinguished citizen of Louisiana.

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Those who were associated with him in the consideration and perfecting of measures in the committee-room or in their passage through this House will easily remember how self-reliant he was and how tenacious of his opinions when once formed. Such men are valuable in any place and at all times, and probably there is no characteristic more needed in public than that they have some fixed opinions, some earnest convictions, and that they have the courage to stand by them and contend for them.

The practical wisdom that had served Mr. GAY in all his private affairs and had given him such prominence among the successful business men of the country found ready and constant application when he left his home to assume the responsible functions of a law-maker for the American people. As the country grows in wealth and population its industries and enterprises become more varied and complex, and the duties devolving on the National Legislature naturally increase and multiply. The result is that the committees of Congress are charged more and more with the responsibility of considering and maturing all measures before they come to either House for its judgment. So that those men who quietly and unobtrusively consult, suggest, amend, and perfect in committee the various measures submitted to them often become the most useful legislators.

The new member, after he has fully entered upon the responsible duties of his office, early realizes that it is impossible for him to inform himself by personal investigation as to the merits of each of the numerous measures upon which he is called to vote, and soon learns that as to many of these he must rely upon the faithful research of his colleagues who, as members of the several committees, have been charged with the investigation; and it requires not many months of service in the House for every new member

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to learn that certain of his colleagues of longer service than himself have acquired the reputation as honest and thorough investigators, and that the statements of such men and the reports they submit can be safely relied on and acted upon. Mr. GAY enjoyed this enviable reputation. He was honest and thorough in his examination of facts, and sound in his conclusions. These characteristics largely contributed to make him the valuable legislator that he was.

Another characteristic quite marked in the service of Mr. GAY in this House was his independence of judgment and action. Not that foolish independence that often leads erratic minds to illogical and unwise conclusions, and that makes men cling to the wrong for consistency's sake, but that better sort which leads one charged with great responsibilities to assume without flinching the full measure of his duties and to rely on and act on his own judgment and convictions when they have once been honestly formed.

He was not a politician. He did not run for office. He was sent to this House by his friends and neighbors. They knew him and had confidence in him. They selected him as their Representative because they had faith in his wisdom and patriotism; and the ever-swelling majorities by which he was returned at each recurring election testify to the faithfulness with which he performed the duties intrusted to him.

But, Mr. Speaker, while the life and character and worldly achievements of our departed friend may be the just source of pride to all who knew him and may furnish, as they do, at once an inspiration and an example to the honest and aspiring youth of our land, the great consolation, now that he is gone, lies in the conviction that he was an earnest and honest Christian.

As early as 1843 he became a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

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He remembered his Creator in the days of his youth. At the early age of twenty-seven he took his stand on the right side of life and started on his journey to a better land. From the day he assumed the grave duties of church membership until the end of his long and useful career he was an efficient and earnest worker in the great enterprises and labors which have made the Methodist Church such an immense power for good in this country. For, without disparagement of others, it may be truthfully asserted that this branch of the Christian church has wrought wonders in good works and has done its full share in carrying to the ends of the earth the everlasting word of the living God.

As in temporal affairs he was eminently practical, so was he in spiritual. He believed that faith without works is dead, and that true Christianity consists not only in believing, but also in doing. It was obedience to this conviction that led him to seek the wayward, to encourage the friendless, to lend a hand to the fallen, and to help the poor and unfortunate; and many there are yet living who testify to his kindness in all these ways.

An honest and successful private citizen, a faithful and wise public servant, a true and humble Christian—all of these was EDWARD J. GAY, of Louisiana. No higher encomium could any man ask.

ADDRESS OF MR. BUTTERWORTH, OF OHIO.

Mr. SPEAKER: It is a pleasure to pay a just tribute of praise to the splendid qualities that adorned the character of our late associate, EDWARD J. GAY. First and best of all, it could be truthfully said of him that he was a Christian.

His life was useful, while it was quiet and unobtrusive.

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While he did not busy himself in searching out new friends, he was always ready to recognize the obligations the relation of friendship imposes, and was willing and glad to assume them when the object was worthy.

I was in no wise intimate with him; but, sitting by his side in committee during two sessions of Congress, I came to know him well and note the strong attributes of his character. He was a thoughtful man. He was an utterly sincere man. The faculty of appearing to be what he was not he never acquired. He never put on a mere outward seeming. The outward was the true reflection of the inner man. What he was became manifest to every one who was brought in contact with and studied to know him. His reserve was not born of coldness. He abounded in charity, but that charity was free from ostentation. He gave alms without sounding a trumpet. He uttered no prayers upon street corners that might be seen of men.

With EDWARD J. GAY the one supreme word in our language was duty. To him it was a word of imperial command, from which there was no appeal; and he yielded a true obedience to its dictates. He did not seek to participate in the gaieties and much less the frivolties of fashionable social life. He was one of those of whom it was written:

> Far from the madding crowd's ignoble strife,
> Their sober wishes never learned to stray;
> Along the cool sequestered vale of life,
> They kept the noiseless tenor of their way.

Such lives are stronger for the preservation of this Republic than are the arms of mailed warriors. They impart to the national life a tone of harmony, and a sense of security, and a spirit of rest. They give to society a moral fiber, an integrity of purpose, which has a consistency and toughness that wears and endures.

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EDWARD J. GAY was very wealthy, but he possessed no trace of that vain conceit and pretentious arrogance that are in some measure characteristic of those grown suddenly rich in our day. He did not become wealthy by virtue of advantage conferred by partial laws, nor by the accidental favor of some mere speculative venture, entered upon without wisdom and prosecuted without judgment. His fortune was the reward of a long life of patient, persistent, and honorable endeavor in the field of useful and legitimate business enterprise.

Independent so far as material wealth can confer that condition, he yet bore himself with an air of humility that was conclusive evidence that he realized in the largest and best sense how dependent upon each other all are in this life for that self-sacrificing friendship and kindly sympathy, without which, to noble minds, life would be a barren waste. Such was the man whose loss we mourn. Such men as he fulfill the law of compensation. They compensate in some measure for that assortment of worthless mortals, flung upon the surface of the sea of life, seemingly to furnish us evidence of God's power, but leaving us unable to reconcile such creations to an economy that is beneficent.

Some time the secrets of this mystery called death we shall know. But now, it is enough that in faith we trust that whether this be given or that withheld, yet are all things done in wisdom and justice, as in love, to the sons of men.

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ADDRESS OF MR. BYNUM, OF INDIANA.

Mr. SPEAKER: It was not my fortune to be intimately associated with Mr. GAY in the preparation and consideration of matters of legislation while he was a member of this House, or to have enjoyed, during the time, close personal relations with him, and therefore I can not speak of those tender qualities of head and heart which become more visible when the watchful business man is absent and the genial, warm-hearted friend and associate alone is present.

Mr. GAY was not a politician. His entrance as a member of Congress was at the advanced age of sixty-eight years. Had he become a member in his younger days he certainly would have enjoyed a successful and marked career; but his training, and no doubt his taste, were in a different line, and there he won rewards and honors no less imperishable. Mr. GAY was not a man of words, but of actions. His terms in Congress were marked by an earnest and attentive but quiet effort to secure wise and wholesome legislation. In the Forty-ninth Congress he served as a member of the Committee on Manufactures and the affairs of the District of Columbia.

In the Fiftieth Congress his eminent qualifications for the position won for him a place upon the Committee on Appropriations. As a member of Congress he was watchful of the interests of his people; every attempt to encroach upon what he believed to be their rights met his resistance. He seldom yielded his convictions to the judgment of others; he thought for himself, made up his mind after careful investigation and mature reflection, and when he arrived at his conclusions he was irrevocably set in his opinions.

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He was not a vacillating character, driven hither and thither by the currents of sentiment, that are as changeable as the winds, but whatever plans were formed were carried forward to a successful termination. He was not only a man of strong convictions, but was able to master the details of his various avocations as well as comprehend them in the aggregate, and was therefore successful in all and a failure in none. From his life and character valuable instruction may be derived and valuable lessons be learned. It is said that 90 per cent. of those who engage in commercial pursuits at some period of their lives fail. This is not strange, when the manner in which most men engage in and carry on various enterprises is considered. We often hear it remarked of some industrious and apparently prosperous person that he is possessed of great energy; and yet how often have we seen such men in the very zenith of their success fall to ruin. We can find, in a lesser degree, young Napoleons of Wall street in every town. Such men possess energy, but lack judgment; they have the motive power, but are without head-lights.

Mr. GAY was not of this class; he was a perfect type of the successful man. Possessing great modesty, there was no dash about his manner. With a mind trained for the comprehension of both great and small things, he was able to master the particulars of whatever he undertook. He could not be lured into hazardous investments and undertakings by mere promises of large returns, but looked behind them to see if they were well founded. By a careful survey of the past and a clear comprehension of the present, he was able to calculate the results with accuracy in the future.

An old, respected, and successful business man of Vincennes, Indiana, a few years ago told me that when he first engaged in merchandising in that historical town he whole-

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saled to the merchants of St. Louis, who transported their goods across the prairies of Illinois by wagon. Said he, "I could have gone to St. Louis and became its greatest merchant, but I thought Vincennes was the point where the great central city of the country was to grow up." Not so with the father of Mr. GAY. Starting from Virginia in 1820 with his youthful son, he passed by Vincennes—where George Rogers Clark had won imperishable renown in revolutionary times; where stood the home of General William Henry Harrison, and near which, beneath the spreading oak, he held his famous council with Tecumseh—and entered the beautiful prairies beyond the Wabash, where they halted four years and then settled in St. Louis, on the banks of the Mississippi, the great highway of commerce, as the point where the great central city of the New World was to be built. And here it was built; and here grew up, to manhood, to honor, to success, and to fortune, EDWARD J. GAY.

The great talents and ability possessed by Mr. GAY were no doubt in some degree natural, but to these were added a rich scholastic education and a careful business training which made him the successful man that he was and would have crowned his labors with success in any calling. He was the first to import coffee by cargo from Cuba, which was considered by most merchants as a hazardous venture. By his talents and capabilities he soon built up a trade and became one of the most extensive wholesale dealers in the West, and was one of the prime movers in the enterprise of the erection of the present Merchants' Exchange Building in St. Louis.

In 1855 Mr. GAY changed his residence and later his business, engaging in the production of sugar in the State of Louisiana. In this new field his abilities were more con-

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spicuously displayed than in merchandising. He was not long in mastering every detail of his new vocation, and soon became more proficient than those who had spent their lives in the business. His recognized ability caused his selection as the first president of the Louisiana Sugar Exchange of New Orleans. Mr. GAY'S success, however, was not alone due to his abilities as a careful and cautious but self-reliant business man. With these qualifications he possessed sterling integrity and honesty. Those who dealt with him soon acquired confidence in him. He was not a designing speculator, bent on gain at all hazards, but the honorable, high-minded, upright dealer who wronged no one, but was trusted by all.

Besides his great capabilities nothing could have contributed more to his success in business and his standing among commercial men than his unquestioned and unquestionable integrity.

This monument of character which he builded so symmetrically, adorned as it was with noble traits and successful deeds, would not be finished without the crowning virtues of morality and Christian charity, and it is a pleasing remembrance to his friends and a consolation to his family that he not only possessed but practiced these to the close of his eventful life.

The world is better by his having lived, and the example of his life may well be taken as a model by those that may follow him.

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ADDRESS OF MR. CLEMENTS, OF GEORGIA.

Mr. SPEAKER: There is a propriety in recounting, on occasions like this, the virtues and achievements of those of whom we pause to speak. This is proper, not alone for the purpose of paying tribute to their memories, but of utilizing their good examples of life in rendering better the lives of those who survive them and follow them.

In a country like this and under a government like ours, where it is possible for the child of humblest birth to attain the highest position of honor in official station, the aspirations of the young are naturally, in a great measure, turned toward the political arena. While ambition in this direction is not to be condemned, it should not be forgotten that there are other fields of useful labor in which great good to humanity can be accomplished and as high and as true honor realized.

In the life and character of Mr. GAY there is much to be commended to the emulation of those engaged in or entering upon the struggle of life. It was in the duties of private, domestic, and business life that the sterling qualities of head and heart ennobled the career of this good and wise man. He was not a politician by profession or choice. He did not seek office. The people called him by nomination and election, unsought on his part, into their service. Prompted by a sense of duty, he responded. His political and official career is well known. He was three times unanimously, and by acclamation, nominated by the Democratic convention of his district, and successively elected by increasing majorities each time.

In this House he did his duty ably, fearlessly, and faith-

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fully. When he addressed this body he commanded the hearing of all, and on each mind left an indelible impression. He was a member of the Committee on Appropriations in the Fiftieth Congress, and was a faithful, painstaking, just, and liberal participant in the arduous work of that committee.

But of his private life I wish to speak further. He was blessed with the greatest of all earthly blessings, that of a Christian mother, who realized her duties and responsibilities, and who lived to see her son a blessing to mankind. Napoleon has said that "the future good or bad conduct of a child depends entirely upon its mother," and a greater than he has uttered these words of wisdom: "Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not depart from it." Both his father and mother were devout Christians, and their lives abounded in deeds of charity.

Mr. GAY'S early early career at school and in college was marked with success, the result of energy and close application in the development of a naturally gifted mind. Here, as well as under the benign influences of a Christian home, was laid the foundation of that success in accomplishments and that true type of manhood developed in his life.

When he left school and went forth to grapple with the stubborn affairs of life he was equipped with a clear and accurate judgment, and pressed onward with a courage and energy that made failure impossible to him. He, without ostentation, soon displayed a degree of capacity that caused him to be regarded as almost a "business prodigy." One who was many years in his employ and knew him intimately says of him:

> He was a just man, always giving full weights and measures. He was a temperate man, not given to excessive indulgence of any kind. He was a Christian man, as his many acts of charity and Christian benevolence show.

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His long and successful business career abounds in instances of the practical observance of honesty, both toward employé and customer. His pastor, Rev. Felix R. Hill, has said of him:

> He was a scrupulously honest man. He kept his contracts, and his word was his bond.

He was one of whom it could have been said that he "sweareth to his own hurt and changeth not."

Bishop Keener has said of him:

> With great energy, he was singularly tempered with moderation. He was unpretending and exemplary in all his personal habits and intercourse with his neighbors. For breadth of view and intelligence upon all subjects he had few equals. In an acquaintance of forty years, I have known no one more uniform: a man uniformly reliable in all departments and conditions of life. He was a pure and blameless man, a faithful husband, an affectionate father, and a helpful friend.

He died in the Christian faith. Duty in all the relations of life was the standard to which he endeavored to raise his conduct. He was true to himself—he could not be false to others—subject, as all men are, to the imperfections of human nature, it would be too much to say that he in all particulars attained this standard to which he aspired, but that he did so in a degree to leave a noble example, worthy to be followed, no one will question.

ADDRESS OF MR. KINSEY, OF MISSOURI.

Mr. SPEAKER: I am sure that the good people of the city of St. Louis, especially those who were the pioneers in her great commercial development, would not willingly allow this occasion to pass without having uttered, in their behalf, some word of tribute to the memory of EDWARD J. GAY.

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For more than half a century he was identified with our growth. He saw a trading post on the frontier become the metropolis of the Mississippi Valley.

The great arteries of commerce that in later years bore this wealth of half a continent to and from our doors derived much of their energy from him; and dying, he has left an indelible impress of his strong and rugged character upon the beautiful city which witnessed the achievements of his early and middle life.

The old-time merchant, who weathered every financial storm; whose word was his bond; whose credit was never tarnished or questioned; who, by the slow and conservative methods less in vogue now than then, built up a colossal fortune, and at the same time wisely dispensed charity upon every hand, was no ordinary man. Such were the characteristics of Mr. GAY'S business career.

It may well be doubted if any pursuit in these days has developed greater men in the things that really make men great than the successful management of the vast industrial and commercial enterprises of this country. In this line our late colleague and friend was preëminent.

The great steel bridge that spans the Father of Waters at St. Louis, her palatial Chamber of Commerce, and a score of other stately and noble structures are witnesses of his foresight, energy, and public spirit as a citizen.

He will be long remembered by our people as among the foremost citizens of his time.

I will not dwell longer upon this phase of his life, nor will I venture to speak of his public career as a member of this House. Others have done that more fittingly than I am able to.

In private life Mr. GAY was a Christian gentleman, unostentatious, generous, kind, and helpful. His memory will

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be revered by many a weary soul whose burdens were made lighter by his generous hand.

His associates in all the walks of life will not soon forget him. His ashes now sleep in Bellefontaine, our beautiful city of the dead, where loving hands have erected a stately monument to mark his last resting place, in sight of which the commerce of the mighty West, which he helped to create, floats by, unheeded now, to the sea.

ADDRESS OF MR. COLEMAN, OF LOUISIANA.

Mr. SPEAKER: Just recognition of the merits of the dead is among the noblest of our impulses.

Cherishing the virtues of friends who have passed into "the great beyond" is to be commended.

EDWARD J. GAY, of Louisiana, the subject of our present sorrowful and most respectful consideration, surrounded by saddened hearts of the loved home circle, watched by the tenderest care of a devoted wife, peacefully passed beyond the skies to that brighter home May 30, 1889. That ending of a beautiful spring, which was succeeded by a glorious summer, was typical of the closing of a successful life, and the transformation into that life of glorious radiance of a Father's love.

EDWARD J. GAY was born at Liberty, Bedford County, Virginia, February 3, 1816. His father, John H. Gay, and family removed in 1820 to Illinois, and thence to St. Louis, Missouri, in 1824, where he settled. He spent several years under the tuition of John H. Dennis, an accomplished teacher residing in Belleville, Illinois; and in 1833-'34 at Augusta College, Kentucky. He became familiar with busi

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ness affairs in early life from being intrusted by his father with transactions of importance and responsibility. He was extensively engaged in commercial affairs at St. Louis, Missouri, from 1838 to 1860; since 1855 he resided in Louisiana, and was largely engaged in commercial, manufacturing, and agricultural pursuits. He was prominently instrumental in the enterprise of the erection of the first and the present Merchants' Exchange Building in St. Louis, and was the first president of the Louisiana Sugar Exchange of New Orleans. He was elected to Congress three consecutive times, thus proving his popularity with those whom he served so faithfully to his death.

Mr. Speaker, while we miss the companionship of our colleague, while we shall never more feel that cordial grasp of his friendly salutation, while we bow in meek submission to the will of "Him who doeth all things well," let us strive to follow the example set for us by our friend, hoping that when we sleep our last sleep we will have made as fair a record of good and faithful service as he has done.

"Love one another" was taught ages ago. How can we better follow this divine precept than to record the virtues of our dead companion?

It is of his virtues I would speak and say, that with his head and hand and heart he profited my State, my home, and my people.

Mr. Speaker, monuments are reared commemorating deeds of valor, daring, and bravery to illustrate respect, love, or veneration for the heroic dead, but in time these will pass away, while the good deeds of the silent worker, imbued with honest, noble purpose, will survive long after monuments shall have crumbled into dust. No monument of bronze or chiseled stone will rear its prominence aloft to mark the battle-deeds or war-famed glory of EDWARD J.

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GAY, but fervid smoke from towering chimneys of industrial plants established as his work will prove his record as a benefactor. I can not chant or loud acclaim his victories of "broil and battle," but I can tell you of his love for home, where quiet and contentment were; where the loved wife in peace and pleasure reigned; where children dwelt, happy and gladdened by a father's presence and a parent's love; where nature smiled and happiness prevailed.

The tear-filled eyes and hearts so full, now mute in anguish round the hearthstone of that Southern home, are far more eloquent than spoken words (however well phrased) to show the grief wrought by this "king of terrors."

Grateful hearts remember acts of kindness by our lamented friend, and know that penury and want could not prevail where industry and application joined with favor from our colleague's hand.

I know of those who, but for help and aid from Mr. GAY, would now be weary and disheartened with this world of care; I know of men who, now quite prominent in life, admit their obligations to that noble friend. Shall I, with this advantage to relate, let slip this chance to tell of my dead friend? Shall I do that which I am called to do and speak of him as he is entitled to? Or shall I let some gossip prate of what they think they know, and scratch the record he's entitled to? By industry and use of knowledge gained from books and men, he ventured out in enterprises new, that brought him profit, which, reinvested with progressive skill, brought more gain and success, until some called him "stilted;" but when he saw more plainly than some others could, it was but natural that his vision soared above that of his criticisers.

I knew him as a customer; so versed was he in my industrial line of business that I got ideas from his views which

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served me in my factory. And yet he passed not as a mechanic, but, fixed in notions of his own, he forced success, and with success, reward.

> His life was gentle, and the elements
> So mix'd in him, that Nature might stand up
> And say to all the world, This was a man!
>
> Your cause of sorrow
> Must not be measured by his worth, for then
> It hath no end.
>
> We speak what we do feel,
> Not what we ought to say.
>
> Good angels guard thee.
> Sleep, sleep in peace
> And wake in joy.

ADDRESS OF MR. ROBERTSON, OF LOUISIANA.

Mr. SPEAKER: Again the business of this House is suspended that proper tribute may be paid to the memory of an esteemed colleague who has passed beyond the river of life unto the shores of eternal rest. Within less than half a decade the Louisiana delegation in Congress has been thrice invaded by the insatiable hand of death. Three of Louisiana's statesmen, in almost as many years, in the midst of useful service, have been called to answer a summons from the throne of immortality. They have quietly, all of them, traversed the narrow but fearful limits of the abyss which separates the living from the dead, and have reached the mysterious land wherein dwell the spirits of statesmen gone before.

The pendulum of unfolding destiny has described another arc, and the implacable decree of fate has terminated the useful career of EDWARD J. GAY. Born of a parentage

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whose sturdy arms carved out the path of civilization in the rugged forests of the West, he inherited the traits of unflinching moral courage and indomitable will, which in the long career of a successful life were his prominent characteristics, and which manifested themselves in a greater part of his after life, when, in the vigor of manhood, he met with an accident which paralyzed his arms and hands and rendered him almost helpless physically. Notwithstanding the excruciating pain to which he was subjected through a long series of years in consequence of his injury, he continued with little interruption the pursuits of his great interests in commercial life and sugar planting.

His hands were fettered, but his will and mental energy seemed to increase with his physical weakness; and his wonderful activity over a large field of operations, in nearly every variety of business, marked him as a man of extraordinary resources, possessing remarkable perseverance, great foresight, and unbending purpose. As a result of these attributes he amassed a great fortune and took rank as an able financier, whose peer does not exist in the Southern States. There was nothing of austerity in his private life; nothing of ostentation in his social intercourse. He was plain and hospitable in his home and strong in his paternal and conjugal affection. His home was a model of domestic happiness and tranquillity.

As a merchant he reached the highest plane of success; as a sugar planter he developed the industry to its fullest limit; as a statesman—having entered political life in his maturer years—he was careful, correct, courageous, carrying his business habits and principles into his official labors. As a man he was upright, just, truthful, sincere, true to his convictions, and brave in the advocacy of what he considered to be right.

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As a Christian he served his God humbly, with no display of hollow show, but with a contrition inspired by "a heavenly spirit of all grace vouchsafed to man through the sacrifice of the Son of God, which stands ready to enter the hearts of all men who serve God with a willing mind and perfect heart." In charity he followed the injunction of Christ, given in the Sermon on the Mount—

But when thou doest alms, let not thy left hand know what thy right hand doeth.

Thus we have his character; a type worthy of emulation and worthy of record in the history of this House.

Mr. Speaker, it was my good fortune in entering upon the duties as a member of the Fiftieth Congress to occupy a seat near Mr. GAY and to enjoy the benefit of his kind advice. It was here that I learned his true worth as a Representative of his people. I have often wondered at his activity and strict attention to the smallest detail of his official duties. In the discussion of the great questions involving seriously the interests of his people he took an active part, and with unswerving determination avowed the purpose of his course with a courage only possessed by a man of his strong characteristics. Mr. GAY will long be remembered by his constituents for the good work he accomplished as their Representative, and his death has caused a void which many years of patient waiting and earnest endeavor will find unfilled.

I need not be missed, if another succeed me
To reap down those fields which in spring I have sown.
He who plowed and who sowed is not missed by the reaper,
He is only remembered by what he has done.

Needs there be praise of the love-written record,
The name and the epitaph graved on the stone?
The things we have lived for, let them be our story.
We, ourselves, but remembered by what we have done.

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ADDRESS OF MR. PETERS, OF KANSAS.

Mr. SPEAKER: I first became acquainted with Hon. EDWARD J. GAY during the first session of the Forty-ninth Congress. My acquaintance was confined entirely to such association as was incident to legislation in the House. He impressed me as being a man of much force, his power being largely augmented by a business experience that gave value to his suggestions. He was a man of dignified reserve, practical and conservative in his ideas, but adhering with great tenacity to his convictions. He was a very courteous gentleman, but so modest and retiring in his disposition that unless associated with him in private life or in the discharge of a public duty his strength of character and intellect would not be disclosed. When, therefore, our mutuality of interest in the sugar industry brought me in consultation with him, I was surprised at his general knowledge of public affairs, as well as at the forcefulness of his methods of expression. During the sessions of the Fiftieth Congress my acquaintance became more intimate and my estimation of his worth as a man and a legislator correspondingly increased. He was conscientious in the performance of public duty, and hence was always in his place unless prevented by his impaired health.

The Fiftieth Congress closed and I saw him no more. In the morning of the summer time, in early May, he launched his bark upon the unknown sea dividing the life here and hereafter and sailed away. To him I believe it was neither an uncertain nor an unexpected voyage, for his faith had crossed that unknown space in advance and was safely anchored in a haven where life's storms and sufferings could not follow.

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In the evening of the summer time I was in his district and had some opportunity to learn of the estimation had for him by the people whose Representative he was and who knew him best. That estimation was then and is now more eloquent than human eulogist can be. From the humble abode of the sable laborer in the cane field, as well as from the mansion of the courteous planter, came nothing but expressions of admiration for his life and sincere regrets for its termination. To the wealth of this esteem I desire to add my own, together with the statement that I am the better for having known him.

Mr. WILKINSON. I now move the adoption of the resolutions already submitted.

The question being taken the resolutions were unanimously adopted, and in accordance therewith the House adjourned.

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PROCEEDINGS IN THE SENATE.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF DEATH.

DECEMBER 16, 1889.

A message from the House of Representatives, by Mr. McPherson, its Clerk, communicated to the Senate the intelligence of the death of Hon. EDWARD J. GAY, late a Representative from the State of Louisiana, and the resolutions passed by the House in relation thereto.

* * * * * * *

Mr. GIBSON. I ask the Chair to lay before the Senate the message received from the House of Representatives to-day announcing the death of my colleague, Mr. GAY, late a Representative from the State of Louisiana in the other House.

The VICE-PRESIDENT. The Chair lays before the Senate the resolutions referred to by the Senator from Louisiana, which will be read.

The Chief Clerk read as follows:

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, *December* 12, 1889.

Resolved, That the House has heard with profound regret of the death of Hon. EDWARD J. GAY, late a Representative from the State of Louisiana.

Resolved, That the Clerk be directed to communicate a copy of this resolution to the Senate.

Resolved, That, as a further mark of respect, the House do now adjourn.

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Mr. GIBSON. I offer the resolutions which I send to the desk.

The VICE-PRESIDENT. The resolutions will be read.

The Chief Clerk read as follows:

Resolved, That the Senate has heard with deep sensibility the announcement of the death of EDWARD J. GAY, late a member of the House of Representatives from the State of Louisiana.

Resolved, That as an additional mark of respect to the memory of the deceased the Senate do now adjourn.

The resolutions were unanimously agreed to; and (at 3 o'clock and 31 minutes p. m.) the Senate adjourned until to-morrow, Tuesday, December 17, 1889, at 12 o'clock m.

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EULOGIES.

APRIL 25, 1890.

Mr. GIBSON, of Louisiana. I now ask that the resolutions of the House of Representatives in relation to the death of the late Hon. EDWARD J. GAY may be laid before the Senate.

The VICE-PRESIDENT. The Chair lays before the Senate the resolutions from the House of Representatives, which will be read.

The Chief Clerk read as follows:

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, *March* 22, 1890.

Resolved, That the business of the House be now suspended, that opportunity may be given for tributes to the memory of Hon. EDWARD J. GAY, late a Representative from the State of Louisiana.

Resolved, That, as a further mark of respect to the memory of the deceased, and in recognition of his eminent abilities as a distinguished public servant, the House at the conclusion of these memorial proceedings shall stand adjourned.

Resolved, That the Clerk communicate these resolutions to the Senate.

Resolved, That the Clerk be instructed to communicate a copy of these resolutions to the family of the deceased.

Mr. GIBSON. I offer the resolutions which I send to the desk.

The VICE-PRESIDENT. The resolutions offered by the Senator from Louisiana will be read.

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The Chief Clerk read as follows:

Resolved, That the Senate has received with profound sorrow the announcement of the death of Hon. EDWARD J. GAY, late member of the House of Representatives from the State of Louisiana, and tenders to the family of the deceased the assurance of sympathy in their sad bereavement.

Resolved, That the business of the Senate be now suspended, that opportunity may be given for fitting tributes to the memory of the deceased and to his eminent public and private virtues, and that as a further mark of respect the Senate, at the conclusion of such remarks, shall adjourn.

Resolved, That the Secretary be directed to transmit to the family of the deceased a copy of these resolutions.

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ADDRESS OF MR. GIBSON, OF LOUISIANA.

Mr. PRESIDENT: Death gathers a plentiful harvest in these legislative halls. It is a common saying that none but constitutions of iron can endure long and continued service in Congress, and that in this respect these bodies differ from the British Parliament, which is distinguished for the robust health and longevity of its members. I can not believe this difference is owing to our climate, but rather to our habits of life, to the imperfect ventilation of the Chambers, to the extraordinary exigencies and exactions, and to the engrossing occupations that make no allowance for outdoor recreation.

The Fifty-first Congress will be memorable for the number of deaths among its most distinguished Representatives. Samuel S. Cox, William D. Kelley, and Samuel J. Randall were leaders, not only in the House of Representatives but out of it. Their personal characteristics and political opinions were well known to the people of the whole country, whom they had served with pure and spotless names. Constituting a positive force in the conduct of the public business a quarter of a century, they went down to their graves beloved of their associates and honored and lamented as faithful servants to the cause of self-government. Two of them were still in the prime of life, with ample experience and the promise of many years of continued usefulness. It is one of the mysteries of Providence that such men should be called away at the moment when their country stood in greatest need of them.

Hon. EDWARD J. GAY, Representative in Congress from the Third Congressional district of Louisiana, entered the House four years ago, and though not so widely known as

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the members to whom I have alluded, was yet a remarkable man, and esteemed and trusted and beloved by the people of the State of which he was one of the Representatives, and throughout the Mississippi Valley as a merchant, manufacturer, and planter.

His death recalls the mournful fact that of the six Representatives from Louisiana who entered the Forty-fourth Congress with me in 1875, but one survives; and of the fifteen who were Representatives in that and in succeeding Congresses, eight have been called to their long rest and to render an account of their stewardships—Leonard, trained in the German universities; Levy, courtly and learned, a finished scholar, and ornament of the supreme court of his State; Spencer, the profound lawyer, who also made his mark on the jurisprudence of the State upon the supreme bench; Elam, remarkable for his strong common sense and rugged honesty; Robertson, who was ever faithful and possessed rare gifts as an orator and legislator; Hahn, the leader of his party in the State; and Ellis, whose open-hearted and sunny nature made him the personal friend of every member of the House, in which he served for more than ten years, and whose vigorous and sympathetic eloquence entitled him to be styled, as he was, "the silver-tongued orator of Louisiana."

And now the people of the State mourn the loss of EDWARD J. GAY, who, after a long, successful, and honorable career in the congenial pursuits of private life, consented, at their solicitation, at a time when most men retire from the public service, to quit his home and to take up his residence in Washington that they and the country should get the benefit of his experience, his sagacity, his ardent patriotism, and his high character and great ability. With what fidelity and dignity and ability he discharged the duties of the trust

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is well known to his constituents, to his colleagues, and the country.

His associates and friends in the House of Representatives have already paid fitting tributes to his memory. I can add nothing to the wealth of richly merited and just encomiums which they have bestowed upon his character and services.

At the commencement of his second term he was assigned to the Committee on Appropriations, and found in the duties of that important committee the sphere for which his abilities peculiarly fitted him.

He was the trusted friend and supporter of Hon. Samuel J. Randall. There was a marked resemblance between them. His mind led him to look to the core of a subject. His powers of analysis led him to discover and dismiss all extrinsic, superficial, and indifferent views that so often mislead and confuse. His methods were those of a business rather than of a party man. Like Randall, he was kind and gentle with his friends, a severe critic of himself, a generous one of others, quiet and unassuming, impatient of declamation, however ponderous or brilliant, looking directly to results, and stood always like a stone wall to defend the interests of his constituents.

Though possessing the largest estate in Louisiana, and perhaps in the Lower Mississippi Valley, no member of either House would, at greater sacrifice to his personal comfort or with more zeal and patience, give his time and attention to serve the poorest and humblest man who might approach him. There was not a Department of the Government which was not familiar with his appearance and his frequent visits on the business of his constituents. He rarely addressed the House, but when he did the members clustered around his desk, for they knew he was master of the subject and that his views would be the embodiment of

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common sense, and be expressed and characterized by clearness and brevity and force.

Fortune had selected him as one of her favorites, but he labored zealously to merit her rewards. His tastes were simple; he enjoyed the endearing associations of the family circle; he cherished the ties of kindred and neighbor; he mingled freely with his people, canvassed his district with diligence and delivered his views with entire frankness, and had become invincible before the people he served. He is worthily succeeded by a member of his own family circle in the House of Representatives.

His health became impaired during the long session of the Fiftieth Congress, but against the advice of physicians and friends he continued at his post faithful to the last. On the 30th of May, 1889, amid scenes that were most familiar and dearest to him, and surrounded by his loving family, and in the bosom of the church of which he was a consistent member, he entered into rest. "Well done, good and faithful servant."

ADDRESS OF MR. COCKRELL, OF MISSOURI.

Mr. PRESIDENT: The good people of the State of Missouri, which I have the honor in part to represent in this Chamber, are proud of the character, the life, and the services of the late Hon. EDWARD J. GAY, and of the distinctions and honors he so worthily attained. Born in Virginia, he was taken by his parents to Illinois when a child of four years, and four years afterward was taken to St. Louis, then a village of 3,000 inhabitants, and remained there till 1856, when he removed to Louisiana and made his home there up to his death. It was upon the soil of Missouri and among her people that his character was formed, his intellect trained,

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and his manhood and rare business abilities developed. The descendant of a Revolutionary soldier, and the son of noble, worthy parents, he inherited a sound body and a vigorous intellect, and imbibed the principles of honesty, industry, liberality, generosity, and Christianity. As a son, he was dutiful, affectionate, and tender.

His parents gave him the benefits of the best educational advantages then attainable, and he availed himself of these opportunities faithfully and industriously.

At the age of eighteen he engaged with his father in commercial life, and pursued his chosen business with great aptness, enterprise, industry, intelligence, and judgment.

As a business man he was eminently successful, and by strictly honest, legitimate, and honorable means amassed a very large fortune of earthly treasures, and established for himself a most enviable character for honesty, integrity, fair legitimate dealings, sound judgment, reliability, and punctuality among his business associates and throughout the great Mississippi Valley.

His name became a synonym of integrity, reliability, and punctuality.

During his mercantile career in St. Louis he passed through two great financial crises, which involved many leading business firms in disaster and bankruptcy. He carried his firm safely and honorably through both, with enhanced financial standing and credit. His word was equivalent to his bond, and his promises were scrupulously kept. Those who knew him best esteemed and loved him most. In all the relations of life he was a worthy exemplar, and the true gentleman in the broadest and best sense of the term.

As a father he was patient, affectionate, and kind, mindful of his responsibilities and watchful of the interests and suc-

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cess of his children. As a husband he was gentle, tender, devoted, and faithful.

As a Christian and member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, he was humble, exemplary, liberal, and generous, without ostentation, and was not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, nor to be called a follower of the meek and lowly Saviour, and in his dying moments could conscientiously and triumphantly exclaim: "I have fought a good fight; I have finished my course; I have kept the faith." As a citizen of this great country he recognized fully his responsibilities and duties, and took an active and intelligent interest in all public affairs, and sought to wield a worthy influence in behalf of honest government and honorable and legitimate methods.

As a public official, a Representative in the Congress of the United States, he was honest, faithful, painstaking, and devoted, and recognized fully that he was the agent, servant, and representative of the people of his district and of the nation, and made all of his personal private affairs and interests, however important or exacting, subservient to his official public duties, and never attempted to use his official position for the enhancement of his private interests. He was not ambitious for political distinction, honors, or preferment. His nomination for Representative in Congress was tendered to him in the sixty-eighth year of his age, unsolicited by him directly or indirectly. Although a gentleman possessed of a large fortune, he never attempted to use his means for the purchase or procurement of political preferment or official position.

He set an example worthy of emulation by all in official life and seeking official position. In the record of his life's work we have an impressive illustration of the many attainments which can be secured by citizens of our great country

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under our unequaled institutions, which afford to every citizen an open pathway to every position in business, social, and political life.

In business life success can be attained by industry, perseverance, self-reliance, and honest, legitimate methods, and a strict adherence to the golden rule, "Do unto others as you would have others do unto you."

In social life recognition, respect, esteem, confidence, friendship, and admiration can be attained by self-respect, honest and honorable purposes, quiet, unostentatious demeanor, good habits, and moral character, and a just recognition of the obligations imposed in social relations.

In official or political life success, honors and preferment can be obtained by an honorable, worthy life and honest, legitimate methods, and without any resort to a debauchery of public morals or the public conscience by the corrupt and demoralizing expenditure of money.

Without entering into the details of his eventful, successful, and honorable career in all the relations of life, which have been so faithfully given by the distinguished Senator from Louisiana who has just addressed the Senate, suffice it to say that the good people of Missouri will ever hold in sacred remembrance his illustrious name and unsullied life and character, and guard with zealous care his mortal remains now sleeping in Bellefontaine Cemetery—the beautiful city of the dead—under the monument erected by loving hands to his memory, and will ever point with just pride to his successful life as an example to follow and not to deter.

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ADDRESS OF MR. EUSTIS, OF LOUISIANA.

Mr. PRESIDENT: Since I have had the honor to take my seat in this body we have been called upon three times to take notice of the death of a Representative from the State of Louisiana. It affords me pleasure to bear personal testimony on this occasion to the worth of the Hon. Mr. GAY, who died as a Representative-elect from that State.

He entered political life at a very advanced age. I am not aware that, until he received the unanimous nomination for Congress of the Democratic convention in his district, he had ever taken any active interest in politics. I know that until that time he was not a conspicuous figure in politics. He was attending to his vast commercial and agricultural interests, pursuing his private avocations, not dreaming at the time that any constituency would demand the sacrifice which he was called upon to make in entering public life. He unexpectedly received a dispatch announcing that he had been the unanimous choice for the standard bearer of the Democracy of the Third Congressional district. He knew that that was a hotly contested district. He knew that his opponent was a very vigilant, active, shrewd man, thoroughly versed in politics. That was the Hon. William Pitt Kellogg.

Mr. GAY accepted that nomination, not to acquire political fame, for that he never sought; not to gratify any political ambition, for that he never entertained; but simply for the reason that he believed he could redeem that district to the Democracy. He was successful in that contest.

He expressed his desire to retire from public life, but he was again unanimously nominated. He accepted that nom-

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ination. I had the honor to conduct the canvass with him in his district. It was a most singular fact that he, a man of large wealth, a prominent citizen, having served a term in Congress, having devoted all his time and his energies to the service of his constituents, appeared before them in that canvass speaking to the people in a fatherly way, claiming no credit for what he had done, never advertising, magnifying, or falsifying his claims to their confidence. He moved among them in a spirit of humility. He would apologize to them for not having done more than he did, and he would almost ask forgiveness for what he seemed to feel a dereliction of duty, because he had not been able to accomplish more for his constituents, while those familiar with what was being done in Washington knew that there was no more faithful, persistent, intelligent, and devoted Representative in Congress.

Again, Mr. President, he was unanimously nominated, and died as a Representative-elect. He brought into public life all those correct habits which he had acquired by his commercial education. He could hardly understand public men, or some of them. He never made a promise to a political friend that he did not redeem. He never made a pledge that he did not fulfill. Treachery, deception, untruthfulness, selfishness in public life he abhorred as much as he did in private life.

But one of his striking characteristics, while endowed with very superior intelligence and remarkable judgment, was his simplicity. No one who had any intercourse with him, from his conversation, from his associations, or from his habits and modes of living, would have supposed for a moment that he had acquired vast fortune which was the result of his assiduous life and honest labor. I am satisfied that when he became known in Congress his counsels would

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have been sought, for while he was a man of almost shrinking modesty, never obtruding his opinions, but rather hesitating to express them, he was at the same time a man of very positive and very strong convictions.

No demand could be made by his constituency that he would not cheerfully respond to. We feel in Louisiana that at his advanced age—having come to this city to reside in the public service with its trying climate, against his wishes, against his inclination—we may truthfully say that EDWARD J. GAY sacrificed his life to the public service. I know that, while he was thus faithfully serving the State of Louisiana, he believed that the consciousness of doing right is the highest reward the public servant can demand.

The VICE-PRESIDENT. The question is on agreeing to the resolutions.

The resolutions were agreed to unanimously; and the Senate adjourned until to-morrow, Saturday, April 26, 1890, at 12 o'clock m.

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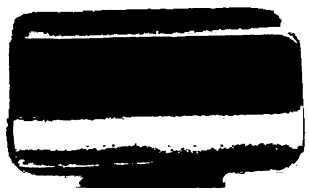

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